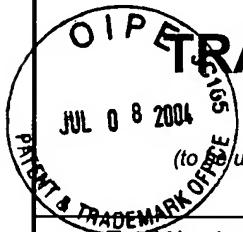


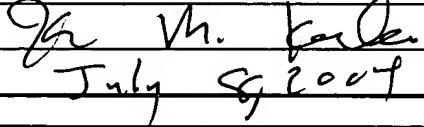
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

 <p>TRANSMITTAL FORM</p> <p>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</p>		Application Number	10/798,486
		Filing Date	March 11, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Cantrell, Gary L.
		Group Art Unit	1616
		Examiner Name	Not yet known
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	717859.8 (1159.1)

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment (Second Preliminary)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below); return postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual Name	Kevin M. Kercher, Reg. No. 33,408 Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin LLP
Signature	
Date	July 8, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:
Express Mail Label No.: EV320680098US

Typed or printed name	Beth Hookway		
Signature		Date	7-8-04

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

9-09-04

I PW



PATENT 717859.8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Gary L. Cantrell)
U. S. Patent Application Serial Number: 10/798,486) Examiner: Unknown.
U.S. Filing Date: March 11, 2004) Group Art Unit: 1616
PCT No.: PCT/US99/23685) Customer No.: 27,128
International Filing Date: October 12, 1999) Confirmation No.: Unknown
Priority Data:)
U.S. Provisional Patent No. 60/103,860)
Filed October 12, 1998)
For: NOVEL ULTRASOUND CONTRAST)
AGENTS)
Attorney Docket: 717859.8 (1159.1))

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTION

Prior to examination, it is respectfully requested that the application be amended as follows:

Amendment to the Specification begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.